

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself and Mr. KERRY):

S. 360. A bill to amend the Coastal Zone Management Act; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Ms. SNOWE (for herself, Mr. KERRY, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. INOUE, and Ms. COLLINS):

S. 361. A bill to develop and maintain an integrated system of ocean and coastal observations for the Nation's coasts, oceans and Great Lakes, improve warnings of tsunamis and other natural hazards, enhance homeland security, support maritime operations, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. STEVENS, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 362. A bill to establish a program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the United States Coast Guard to help identify, determine sources of, assess, reduce, and prevent marine debris and its adverse impacts on the marine environment and navigation safety, in coordination with non-Federal entities, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. AKAKA, and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 363. A bill to amend the Nonindigenous Aquatic Nuisance Prevention and Control Act of 1990 to establish vessel ballast water management requirements, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. INOUE (for himself, Mr. STEVENS, Mr. LOTT, Ms. CANTWELL, Ms. SNOWE, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. LAUTENBERG):

S. 364. A bill to establish a program within the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration to integrate Federal coastal and ocean mapping activities; to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation.

By Mr. COLEMAN (for himself and Mr. DAYTON):

S. 365. A bill to amend the Torture Victims Relief Act of 1998 to authorize appropriations to provide assistance for domestic and foreign centers and programs for the treatment of victims of torture, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

By Mr. GREGG (for himself and Mr. ENSIGN):

S. 366. A bill to improve women's access to health care services and provide improved medical care by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the delivery of obstetrical and gynecological services; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. GREGG (for himself and Mr. ENSIGN):

S. 367. A bill to improve women's access to health care services, and the access of all individuals to emergency and trauma care services, by reducing the excessive burden the liability system places on the delivery of such services; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

By Mr. LAUTENBERG (for himself, Mr. KENNEDY, and Mrs. MURRAY):

S. 368. A bill to provide assistance to reduce teen pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, and other sexually transmitted diseases and to support healthy adolescent development; to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

By Mr. VITTER:

S.J. Res. 3. A joint resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the

United States relative to limiting the number of terms that a Member of Congress may serve; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

SUBMISSION OF CONCURRENT AND SENATE RESOLUTIONS

The following concurrent resolutions and Senate resolutions were read, and referred (or acted upon), as indicated:

By Mr. BAYH:

S. Res. 47. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate commending civilian employers of members of the reserve components of the Armed Forces for their support of members who are called to active duty and for their support of the members' families; to the Committee on Armed Services.

By Mr. LUGAR:

S. Res. 48. A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding trafficking in persons; to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

ADDITIONAL COSPONSORS

S. 5

At the request of Mr. SPECTER, the name of the Senator from Texas (Mr. CORNYN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 5, a bill to amend the procedures that apply to consideration of interstate class actions to assure fairer outcomes for class members and defendants, and for other purposes.

S. 8

At the request of Mr. ENSIGN, the name of the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. LOTT) was added as a cosponsor of S. 8, a bill to amend title 18, United States Code, to prohibit taking minors across State lines in circumvention of laws requiring the involvement of parents in abortion decisions.

S. 37

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the names of the Senator from Alaska (Ms. MURKOWSKI), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) and the Senator from Kentucky (Mr. BUNNING) were added as cosponsors of S. 37, a bill to extend the special postage stamp for breast cancer research for 2 years.

S. 39

At the request of Mr. STEVENS, the names of the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY) and the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG) were added as cosponsors of S. 39, a bill to establish a coordinated national ocean exploration program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

S. 119

At the request of Mrs. FEINSTEIN, the name of the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SPECTER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 119, a bill to provide for the protection of unaccompanied alien children, and for other purposes.

S. 183

At the request of Mr. GRASSLEY, the names of the Senator from Utah (Mr.

HATCH), the Senator from Montana (Mr. BAUCUS), the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM), the Senator from West Virginia (Mr. ROCKEFELLER), the Senator from Oregon (Mr. SMITH), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. CONRAD), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. TALENT), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. JEFFORDS), the Senator from Utah (Mr. BENNETT), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. BINGAMAN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KERRY), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. LUGAR), the Senator from Arkansas (Mrs. LINCOLN), the Senator from Missouri (Mr. BOND), the Senator from New York (Mr. SCHUMER), the Senator from Ohio (Mr. DEWINE), the Senator from Nevada (Mr. REID), the Senator from Maine (Ms. COLLINS), the Senator from Washington (Mrs. MURRAY), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Nebraska (Mr. HAGEL), the Senator from Michigan (Ms. STABENOW), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. CORZINE), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. DODD), the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN), the Senator from Maryland (Ms. MIKULSKI), the Senator from Rhode Island (Mr. REED), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. AKAKA), the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN), the Senator from Washington (Ms. CANTWELL), the Senator from Minnesota (Mr. DAYTON), the Senator from Illinois (Mr. DURBIN), the Senator from California (Mrs. FEINSTEIN), the Senator from Hawaii (Mr. INOUE), the Senator from Wisconsin (Mr. KOHL), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from New Jersey (Mr. LAUTENBERG), the Senator from Vermont (Mr. LEAHY), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON), the Senator from North Dakota (Mr. DORGAN), the Senator from Maryland (Mr. SARBANES), the Senator from Indiana (Mr. BAYH), the Senator from Connecticut (Mr. LIEBERMAN) and the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) were added as cosponsors of S. 183, a bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide families of disabled children with the opportunity to purchase coverage under the medicaid program for such children, and for other purposes.

S. 239

At the request of Mr. WYDEN, the name of the Senator from Florida (Mr. NELSON) was added as a cosponsor of S. 239, a bill to reduce the costs of prescription drugs for medicare beneficiaries, and for other purposes.

S. 266

At the request of Mr. LAUTENBERG, the name of the Senator from California (Mrs. BOXER) was added as a cosponsor of S. 266, a bill to stop taxpayer funded Government propaganda.

S. 267

At the request of Mr. CRAIG, the name of the Senator from Idaho (Mr.

CRAPO) was added as a cosponsor of S. 267, a bill to reauthorize the Secure Rural Schools and Community Self-Determination Act of 2000, and for other purposes.

S. 320

At the request of Mr. ALLARD, the name of the Senator from Colorado (Mr. SALAZAR) was added as a cosponsor of S. 320, a bill to require the Secretary of the Army to carry out a pilot project on compatible use buffers on real property bordering Fort Carson, Colorado, and for other purposes.

S. 336

At the request of Mr. SARBANES, the name of the Senator from Delaware (Mr. BIDEN) was added as a cosponsor of S. 336, a bill to direct the Secretary of the Interior to carry out a study of the feasibility of designating the Captain John Smith Chesapeake National Historic Watertrail as a national historic trail.

S. RES. 44

At the request of Mr. ALEXANDER, the names of the Senator from New York (Mrs. CLINTON), the Senator from Oklahoma (Mr. COBURN), the Senator from Mississippi (Mr. COCHRAN), the Senator from New Mexico (Mr. DOMENICI), the Senator from South Carolina (Mr. GRAHAM), the Senator from South Dakota (Mr. JOHNSON), the Senator from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU), the Senator from Michigan (Mr. LEVIN), the Senator from Arkansas (Mr. PRYOR) and the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. SANTORUM) were added as cosponsors of S. Res. 44, a resolution celebrating Black History Month.

STATEMENTS ON INTRODUCED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS

By Mr. GRAHAM (for himself, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. DEWINE, Mr. LEAHY, Mr. ALLEN, Ms. CANTWELL, and Mr. REID):

S. 337. A bill to amend title 10, United States Code, to revise the age and service requirements for eligibility to receive retired pay for non-regular service, to expand certain authorities to provide health care benefits for Reserves and their families, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Armed Services.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, we have long recognized that our country has an obligation to take care of the brave men and women who wear the uniform of the United States—and their families.

Sixty years ago we passed the GI Bill of Rights for the 16 million veterans who served in World War II. By providing new opportunities in housing and education, we helped them return to civilian life.

Our military forces have changed dramatically since then—but the benefits we offer to military families haven't kept pace with the changes.

Today our military relies on volunteers, and our security depends on recruiting and retaining good troops—including members of the National Guard and Reserves.

The Guard and Reserves serve at the command of State governors, but members are also available to be called to active duty by the President. And over the last 10 years, the role of the National Guard and Reserves in our military has steadily increased.

Today, reports indicate that almost half of the forces deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom come from the National Guard and the Reserves.

These Guardsmen and Reservists are not only providing much-needed "boots on the ground." They bring specific skills that our regular active military cannot duplicate.

For example, in my home state of Nevada, half of the pilots in the Nevada Air National Guard are civilian pilots.

A majority of the Nevada National Guard military police, who are in the 72nd MP Company that just returned from Iraq, work as law enforcement officers in Las Vegas.

And the Nevada Army Guard's 126th Medical Company an air ambulance unit, which flew more than 174 traumatic medical evacuations in Afghanistan, is made up entirely of men and women who work as civilian paramedics.

So the National Guard and Reserves are strengthened by the fact that members hold civilian jobs as pilots, police officers and paramedics.

The Guard and Reserves also provide the primary service—or the only service—in several crucial areas of national security, including: port security; airport security; civil support teams; and reconnaissance and Drug Air Interdiction.

Since we rely more than ever on members of our National Guard and Reserves, we need to modernize the benefits that are available to them—especially in the areas of retirement and health care.

Let's start with health care.

It's true that service in the Guard and Reserve is a part time obligation—but it is unlike any other part-time job that a person might hold.

When the Guard and Reserves call, members must put their duty above their regular jobs and even their families. That means taking time off from their regular jobs . . . and forgoing many family activities because they are busy fulfilling their Guard or reserve duties.

And it means being ready for deployment at any time.

In short, we expect members to make the Guard and Reserves a top priority in their lives.

In return for that commitment . . . for the sacrifices they make at their regular jobs . . . we owe them the peace

of mind of knowing that their families will receive quality medical care.

We need to offer medical care that leverages the existing military health care system. That is why TRICARE should be an option for all members of the National Guard and Reserves.

The lack of health care benefits for Guard and Reserve members is a serious problem. Currently, about 40 percent of the enlisted members don't have any health care coverage.

This affects troop readiness. In recent mobilizations, 10 to 15 percent of the Guard and Reserve members could not be deployed due to health-related issues.

It also affects the state of mind of those who are training for dangerous deployments. A Reservist in training on the weekend shouldn't be worried about whether his or her sick child will be able to see a doctor.

Providing better health care benefits to members of the Guard and Reserve is not only the right thing to do—it's a matter of national security.

We just also upgrade the retirement benefits available to those who choose to serve for long periods of time.

A person who serves in the Guard or Reserve for 20 years is subject to being called up to active duty numerous times, disrupting his or her civilian career and retirement planning.

We must take this into account, and improve the retirement benefits for Guard and Reserve members.

The current reserve retirement system is 50 years old, and it doesn't reflect the extent to which our nation now depends on the National Guard and Reserves.

This outdated system doesn't allow members to receive retired pay or retiree health benefits until they are 60 years old. We must update the system so those who serve can receive benefits at age 55, if they meet all the other requirements.

This change would recognize the importance of the Guard and Reserves in today's military . . . and it would recognize the sacrifices that members make in their civilian careers in order to serve their country.

Once again, this is not only the right thing to do—it will make our country stronger and safer by encouraging and rewarding service in the National Guard and Reserves.

By Mr. DURBIN (for himself, Mr. BUNNING, Mr. OBAMA, Mr. BAYH, and Mr. LUGAR):

S. 341. A bill to provide for the redesign of the reverse of the Lincoln 1-cent coin in 2009 in commemoration of the 200th anniversary of the birth of President Abraham Lincoln; to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, today I am introducing a bill to honor Abraham Lincoln in 2009, the bicentennial